

*Edward Land
27 Rose Hill Drive
Bear, DE 19701*

January 25, 2001

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

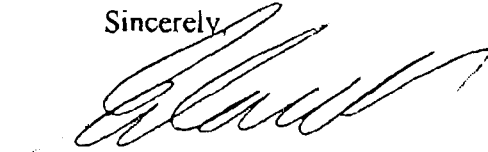
Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

According to the Tunney Act, I am free to comment on the Microsoft antitrust settlement; I briefly wanted to express my approval of the settlement between Microsoft and the Department of Justice. I believe that the lawsuit was a bit unwarranted to begin with, in that Microsoft has always endeavored to make its software compatible with its operating system. This compatibility--which is the very heart of the government's claim that Microsoft was monopolistic--is the one thing that has allowed the average computer user to actually make use of modern computer technology. Whether the issue is a spreadsheet program that works well with the word processor; or either (or both) working at all on the operating system; or the latest release of DirectX that allows for sophisticated gaming that the young people like so much--all of this is possible because of Microsoft's commitment to integration.

I am confident that the review process for the Department of Justice will bear this out. I am hoping that many other Microsoft detractors both in the corporate area, as well as within our government, will allow this settlement to proceed.

I appreciate the hard work that you and your colleagues do to safeguard the American people from abusive business practices. But this Microsoft suit is not one of those areas of corporate abuse. I believe that in fact, it is much more beneficial to have Microsoft continue to do what it has, as unhindered as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Edward Land